



## Robin B. Gillespie

March 9, 1956 - April 6, 2022

Robin B. Gillespie was born on March 9, 1956 in Decatur, IL to Doris Etta (nee Hughes) and Alfred Belue Jr. Given the name Robin Lynn Belue, she was the last of four children and the only girl. She had three older brothers, Gregory Alan, Eric Dion and Wayne Maurice. Her cousin Larry Dean Rodgers was also raised with her family at an early age when his own mother passed away.

The family attended Trinity CME Church and Robin served as a Junior Usher, and a youth choir member. She accepted Jesus Christ as her personal savior at an early age.

She attended MacArthur High School in Decatur before moving with her mother to St. Louis where she attended Soldan High School and graduated in 1974. She and her family were members of Wayman Temple A.M.E Church on the corner of Kingshighway and Cabanne.

She was a single parent to her daughter, Rusoun Belue, until 1985, when she married her loving and devoted husband, Wayne M. Gillespie. They raised Rusoun together and continued their union until the time of her death.

Robin and her daughter, Rusoun, graduated from St. Louis University and received their diplomas on the same day. Robin earned her Bachelor of Liberal Studies in Social Sciences and went on to earn her Master of Science in Human Resource Management from Lindenwood University. She had a

wealth of professional experiences. However, she discovered her enthusiasm for volunteerism in her position as Manager of Docent Services and Volunteer Program at St. Louis Public Library. She soon joined St. Louis Council of Directors of Volunteer Services where she served as a board member and Program Vice President. She was also Coordinator for Volunteer-Intern Services at Grace Hill Settlement, Inc. In 2016, she began working for St. Louis County as Volunteer Coordinator for the County Older Residents Program. She was in this position at the time of her death.

Volunteerism and community involvement was a passion for Robin. She was involved in CORO, Women in Leadership - Graduate Class 25, Docent Council of Metro St. Louis - Member, Jacobs Ladder - Board Member, Mello Tone Ministries - Board Member, Professional Tour Association - Member, St. Louis University Service Leadership - Board Member, St. Louis Council of Directors of Volunteer Services - Board Member & Program Vice President and United Way Certification Committee - Member and St. Louis African Arts Festival - Volunteer Coordinator then Planning Committee Co-Chair.

Robin was easy to love. She had a desire to make things better for herself and other people. She liked staying busy and she gave every project she was involved in her all. She was always around to share in others problems and to help them find solutions. This quality made her loved by all and she helped others in any way she could.

Robin is predeceased by her parents and older brother Wayne Maurice Belue.

Robin leaves behind her husband Wayne M. Gillespie, daughter Rusoun Belue (Homer Hudson), brothers Gregory Belue, Eric Belue (Cecilia), Cousin Larry Rodgers (Lillie), mother-in-law Florence Gillespie, brothers-in-law Warren Gillespie, Wesley Gillespie (Felica E.), nieces Talela Belue, Erica Belue, Taylor Gillespie, Morgan Gillespie, Madison Gillespie and nephew Wesley Gillespie Jr. There is a host of relatives and friends that will miss

seeing her radiant smile but all are happy to know that Robin is no longer suffering and is resting in God's loving arms.

Donations in Honor of Robin B. Gillespie may be made to the St.Louis African Arts Festival c/o The African Heritage Association of St.Louis, 8816 Manchester Rd., #411, St. Louis, MO 63144 or by visiting the website at [www.stlafricanartsfest.com](http://www.stlafricanartsfest.com).

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

MAY 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Valhalla Chapel of Memories  
7600 St Charles Rock Road  
St Louis, MO 63133

### Funeral Ceremony

MAY 7. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

Valhalla Chapel of Memories  
7600 St Charles Rock Road  
St Louis, MO 63133

# Tribute Wall

CT

“ Where does one begin when you observe someone so illuminating but never even has to say a single word to light the world? That was Robin's way. I grew up with Rusoun, and while I spent time with her, Robin was engaging, funny, and perfectly attuned to her daughter and her needs. And most importantly her wants. The peace that she exhibited as she navigated thru life was wonderful. I wish I had spent more time.

Fondly,  
Carrie Goodman Tesnar

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Carrie Natasha Tesnar - May 19, 2022 at 07:13 AM

AL

“ Your mom is an amazing woman, someone I look up to. My thoughts are with you during this difficult time. Sending all of our love and support. Love, Agnes & Martin

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agnes Laird - May 07, 2022 at 09:22 PM

RH

“ Robin was such an amazing friend! She was so beautiful inside and out. I met her at SLPL. She was always encouraging and helpful. Big smiles and bigger heart. It was she that got me involved with volunteering annually at the St Louis African Arts Festival. It was always such a delightful time. My son's grew up knowing and loving Robin, Rusoun and volunteerism. We had so many things in common. Many good times. Our families both attended Wayman and Soldan. Such a small world. Such a loss for us however, Heaven gained a good one❤️

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Rheghetta - May 07, 2022 at 07:28 PM

AW

“ My memories with robin was from when I first started volunteering at the African arts festival and she was there helping and I enjoyed seeing the hard work and dedication her and Rusoun put in to help make it success and I was grateful for them to allow my sisters and I to be apart of it .also she was there with me when we all took a college tour to help me decide what college I wanted to attend to at the time she even let me work at her job to make some money for stuff I needed for school and I’m forever grateful for it ...I love how she was so nice and sweet and had a beautiful smile ..people would often say that we looked alike with our similar features and I loved it cause I knew she was a beautiful woman and I always loved what she did with her hair ..I’m forever grateful to have her in my life and she will be missed

**Alexys Wright** - May 06, 2022 at 08:16 PM

CP

“ We give our deepest condolences to Rusoun and all of the family, friends and loved ones of Mrs Robin Gillespie. Whenever we saw her, she had the sweetest smile and such an endearing personality. We continue to pray that you’re comforted and strengthened during this time. -Chris and Danielle Phillips

**Chris and Danielle Phillips** - May 06, 2022 at 05:50 PM

YO

“ Yolanda lit a candle in memory of Robin B. Gillespie



**Yolanda** - May 06, 2022 at 11:49 AM

DB

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Delouis Gavin Booth** - May 06, 2022 at 09:19 AM

SD

“ We are sending love and warmth to the family of Robin her dear daughter Rusoun. What a inspiration Robin was as a mother and friend. I remember Robin as a strong and supportive mother to her daughter.

*Please accept our condolences.*

*Regards, the DiLorenzo family*

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**Sam Dilorenzo** - May 06, 2022 at 09:04 AM

SG

“ My clearest memories of Robin are of big life moments, like our graduations and Rusoun and Homer’s beautiful wedding, but i see her especially clearly when I remember all the many time Rusoun and I were busy doing kid stuff and Robin helped to make it all happen. Robin did such a good job mothering my best friend, Rusoun. Her love was always palpable. Her expectations were set at the very highest level that Rusoun (and those of us around her) be first kind, then courageous enough to go after difficult things. She encouraged joy and all kinds of healthy happy things. She was funny and liked to laugh and passed that on too. I know now, as an adult, how much work it takes to be as supportive a parent as Robin always was: enrolling her in tap dance, basketball, every extracurricular academic school thing, facilitating all the friend overnights and outings. My childhood was a great deal more joyful because Robin made sure that Rusoun did all the things! The fact that Robin and Rusoun have had the closest relationship I’ve ever seen between an adult child and their mother never surprised me. It was always one of mutual respect and admiration. I know that it is that first relationship that has made my dear friend so incredibly loyal and kind and rewarding to share this world with.

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**Sarah Hermes Griesbach** - May 06, 2022 at 08:18 AM

EL

“ We always enjoyed our conversations with Robin because of her many interests and her sense of humor. We will miss her bright spirit and sweet smile.



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**Ellen & Michael Lowenstein** - May 05, 2022 at 11:53 PM

GB

“ Robin and I shared an apartment together right out of high school. We had so many memories together, she even sold me a house. She and Rusoun came to Texas to visit her niece and stopped by...the hospital to visit me. She was always helping others. I'm going to miss that smile she always had. Robin was the sister I always wanted. Rest with our Lord sis, until we meet again.

Gale Beck-Savage - May 05, 2022 at 10:47 PM



“ I meet Robin in 1999, and I was looking for a job. She was over volunteer services at the St.Louis Public Library, she told me that she didn't have a job for me at that moment, but a program was coming up and she thought that I would be perfect for it and she was right.I was a Vista Volunteer . You see Robin had a nack for helping no matter what  
She was my boss but she also became my friend my big sister! We use to talk about how she was the only girl and I became the little sister that she never had. I am forever grateful that God allowed our paths to cross.I'm going to miss you but I shall never forget all the memories that we shared. Till we meet again ❤️



Sylvia Mccowan - May 05, 2022 at 09:58 PM

CE

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Cee** - May 05, 2022 at 09:16 PM



“ Jan Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Robin B. Gillespie



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**Jan Jacobs** - May 05, 2022 at 08:52 PM

VP

“ Robin was a very lovely person. She was my hero. No matter what was happening in her life, she was always smiling and happy.



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**Velma Phillips** - May 05, 2022 at 08:21 PM

CE

“ Robin was and will always be my little sister and I just didn't have enough time with her. Over the last 40 plus years we had some serious but mostly fun times. I loved talking her ear off and we share many good and bad things even me trying to steal her child while she tried to steal mine. I will never forget the time our friend Karen interrupted Robin and my gym time to take us out drinking. I was a light weight at the time and hadn't eaten and by the end of the evening, they somehow got me up 4 flights of stairs, knocked on the door and as soon as her brother Eric opened the door they left me and ran. I can still feel the pain, especially since I had a job interview the next morning, but that was just one of many memories I have with Robin. Finally, we were lucky to get Robin a few years ago, she came to California for 3 weeks and we loved taking her places, Napa, Sausalito, eating out and just relaxing. I will truly miss our time together and growing old with Robin. It just wasn't enough time. Cee



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Cee - May 05, 2022 at 07:43 PM

BP

“ Robin was beautiful wonderful kind person I'm so blessed to have know her may she forever shine down on her family and friends Sweet Angle



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Betty Phillips - May 05, 2022 at 06:27 PM

RU

“ Mom, I'm going to miss our road trips, days of laughter, inside jokes, and just being able to call with any problem, any time of the day or night. You always listened and guided with a gentle hand. Thank you! I love you! I miss you! Happy Mother's Day!



Rusoun - May 05, 2022 at 06:13 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Robin B. Gillespie.



April 28, 2022 at 01:03 PM

CC

“ Robin and I have share a friendship for over 40 years , She was like a sister to me. We had many fun times together, even though she gone her memory will last forever. I am going to miss her beautiful smile and our talk together, wish I could told her goodbye, but I know she in a better place now. She fought a good battle and now has earn her wings. Rest In Peace my dear friend.

carolyn Currie - April 20, 2022 at 10:02 PM

PC

Robin and I shared a beautiful friendship for over 55 years. We met one summer at the park when she was ten and I was twelve. We shared sooooo many happy days, and a few sad ones. But thank God the good days out weighed the sad days. I attended my first concert and my first play with Robin. For over fifty five years, we never had an argument or said an unkind word to one another. I miss and love my little sister.

patricia currie - April 25, 2022 at 12:21 AM

CC

“ Carolyn Currie lit a candle in memory of Robin B. Gillespie



carolyn Currie - April 20, 2022 at 09:53 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Valhalla Funeral Chapel, Crematory and Cemetery - April 16, 2022 at 06:37 PM

BP

Robin was such a beautiful wonderful kind person so blessed to have know her may she forever shine down on all her family and friends Sweet Angel

Betty Phillips - May 05, 2022 at 05:59 PM

EB

Robbie was the baby in our family, so we tended to want to protect her in spite of the fact she was a warrior on her own. She was a beautiful person inside and out and a survivor in all ways. I will miss her smile and insight and especially our conversations. She pushed me to be my best and I am happy she is no longer suffering. RIP Robbie. We love you!

Eric Belue - May 05, 2022 at 07:12 PM

DB

*Robin and I met years ago at Saint Louis University at a Black Alumni event and we instantly connected; we have been friends ever since. I was meek and shy - she was bold and outspoken. She gradually enveloped me into her volunteer efforts and became my dear friend. She was my maid of honor at my wedding, which meant a lot to me. I will miss hearing her laugh when I would sing her name when we would greet each other. Robin, I will miss you my friend. Thank you for being all that you are. Thank you for being a part of my life. Until we meet again...*

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**Delouis Gavin Booth** - May 06, 2022 at 09:13 AM

MH

*I knew Robin as the caring and attentive mother to her beloved daughter Rusoun. Over the years I saw how that love reaped its deserved reward in Rusoun's devotion. Looking now at all the great pictures of Robin brings a smile to my face, seeing how Robin bequeathed HER smile to her daughter.*

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**Margaret Hermes** - May 06, 2022 at 06:25 PM